

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on 7 March 2006, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-39. Claims 1-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1, 14, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because they fail to produce a useful, concrete and tangible result. Claims 1-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wu et al. (US Pub. No. 2005/0033726 hereinafter "Wu").

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph and second paragraph

Claims 1-39 were rejected as failing to comply with the enablement requirement and for being indefinite. Applicant has accordingly amended claims 1-2, 10-12, 14-15, 23-25, 27-28, and 36-38 to clarify that the present invention is directed towards manipulating metadata (see page 7, paragraph [0030] of the instant application). Note that the steps in creating meta-data are well known in the art and thus are not described in the claims. The present invention is directed towards data stewardship for metadata in a data warehouse (see page 9, paragraph [0037] of the instant application). No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 1, 14, and 27 were rejected for failing to produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result. Applicant has accordingly amended claims 1, 14, and 27 to clarify that the present invention results in the securing of metadata and the easing in the administration of the collection (see page 9, line 1, and see page 9, lines 14-16 of the instant application). No new matter has been added.

Claims 14-26 were rejected for citing nonstatutory subject matter. Applicant has amended claims 14-26 to remove any reference to computer

instruction signals, carrier waves, and transmission mediums. No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Independent claims 1, 14, and 27 were rejected as being anticipated by Wu. Applicant respectfully points out that Wu teaches a method using metadata to facilitate logically grouping enterprise data (see Wu, page 1, paragraph [0009]). Furthermore, Wu teaches a method for a user to manipulate data and metadata without involving an administrator (see Wu, page 1, paragraph [0012], lines 9 - page 2, paragraph [0012], line 4, see Wu, page 4, paragraph [0047], see Wu, page 4, paragraphs [0051]-[0052], and see Wu, page 5, paragraph [0058]). Moreover, although Wu teaches the existence of various types of administrators (see Wu, page 3, paragraph [0037]), Wu does not differentiate between their roles and responsibilities (see Wu, page 4, paragraph [0054], and see Wu, page 8, paragraph [0089]).

In contrast, the present invention teaches aggregating metadata within various collections (see page 7, paragraph [0031] of the instant application). Furthermore, the present invention teaches a super user granting permission to a data steward to manipulate the metadata and administer the collections (see page 8, paragraph [0035], and see page 9, paragraph [0037], lines 13-16 of the instant application). Moreover, a user who is not a data steward cannot manipulate metadata (see page 8, paragraph [0036], lines 21-23 of the instant application). The present invention is advantageous because it facilitates a more coordinated security system for metadata and eases the administration of the collection.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 14, and 27 to clarify that the present invention teaches manipulating the metadata under the control of a data steward. This amendment finds support on page 8, paragraph

[0036] lines 21-23, and on page 9, paragraph [0037] lines 13-16 of the instant application.


Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 14, and 27 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2-13, which depend upon claim 1, claims 15-26, which depend upon claim 14, and claims 28-39, which depend upon claim 27, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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